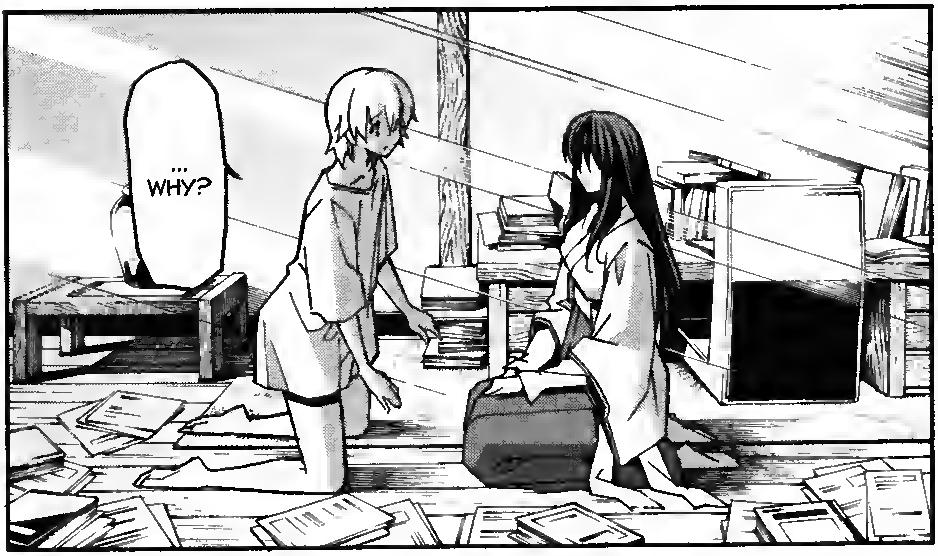
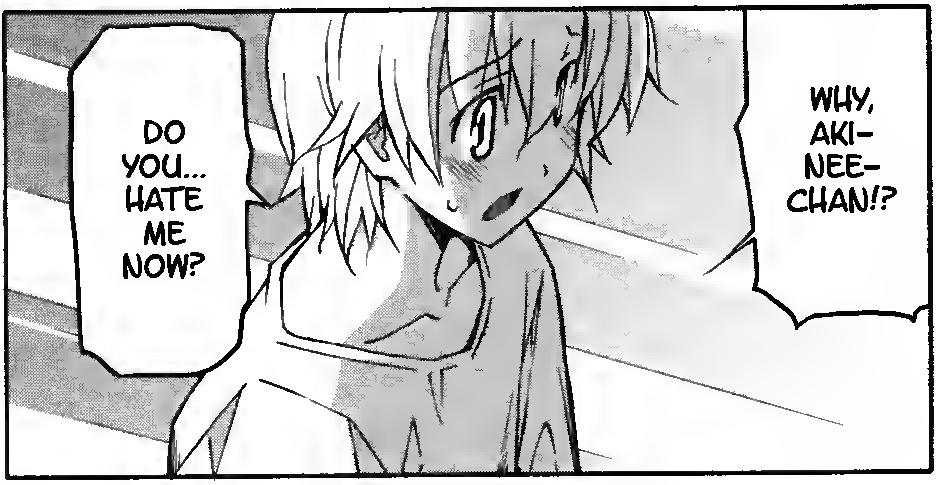
Chapter 29: Sister and Brother

I'VE DECIDED TO STAY HERE.
I... CAN'T GO BACK WITH YOU, SORA.
ぐすっ


... WHY?

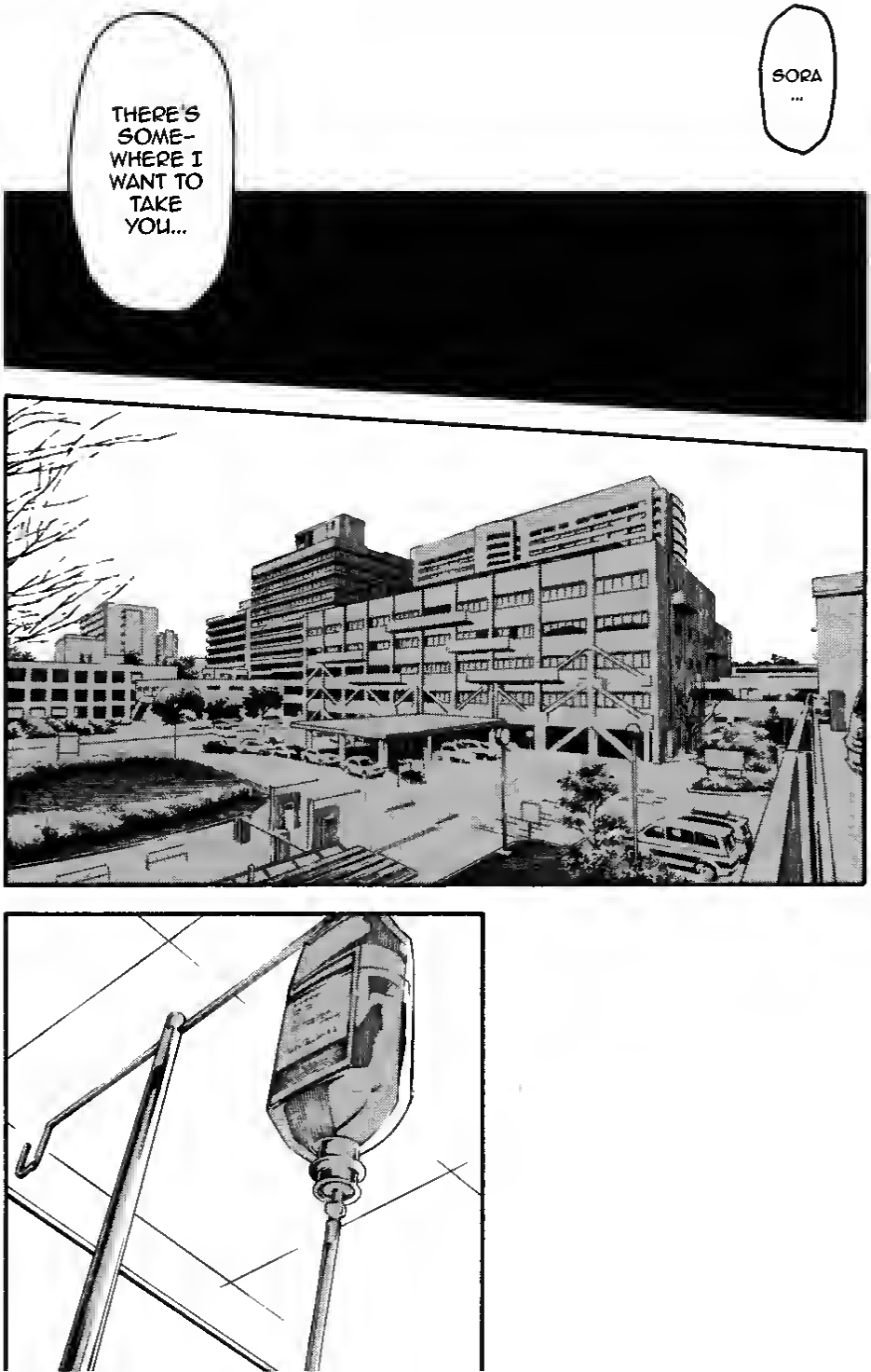

DO YOU... HATE ME NOW?
WHY, AKI-NEE-CHAN!?

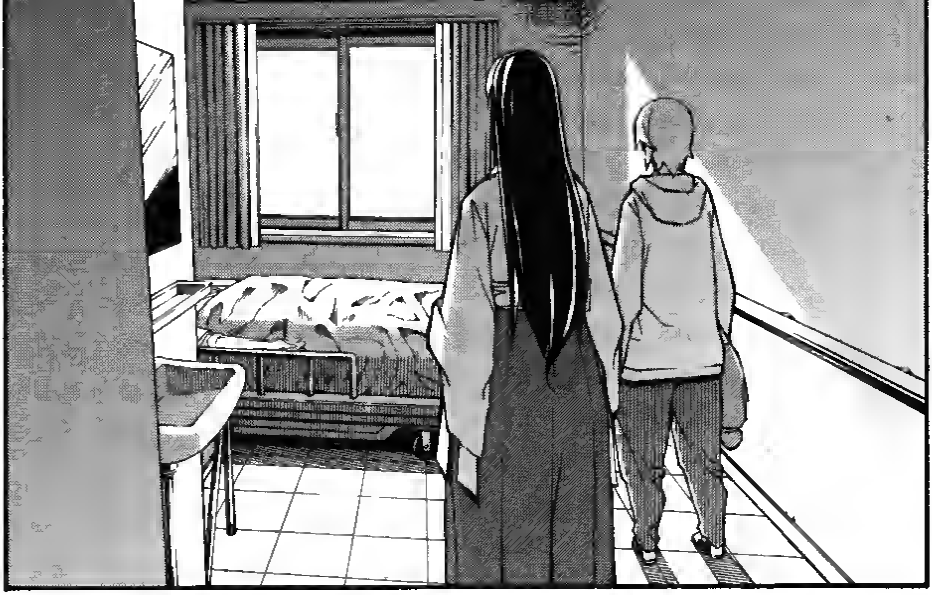
.....
THEN ...
.....IS IT BE-CAUSE...
WE'RE SIL-BLINGS ...?

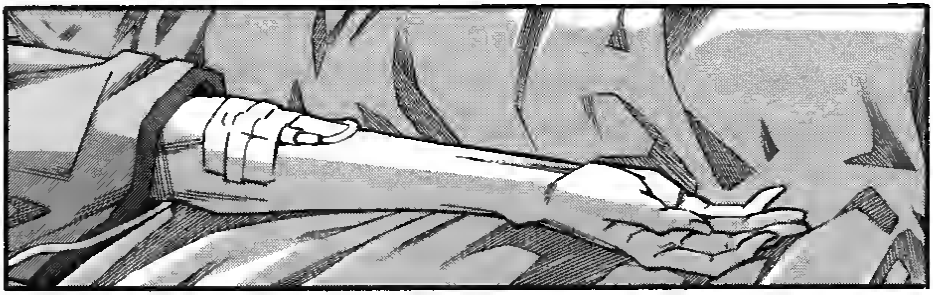
KNOW THAT...
I...

EVEN SO, I....!!

.....


THERE'S SOME-WHERE I WANT TO TAKE YOU...
SORA ...

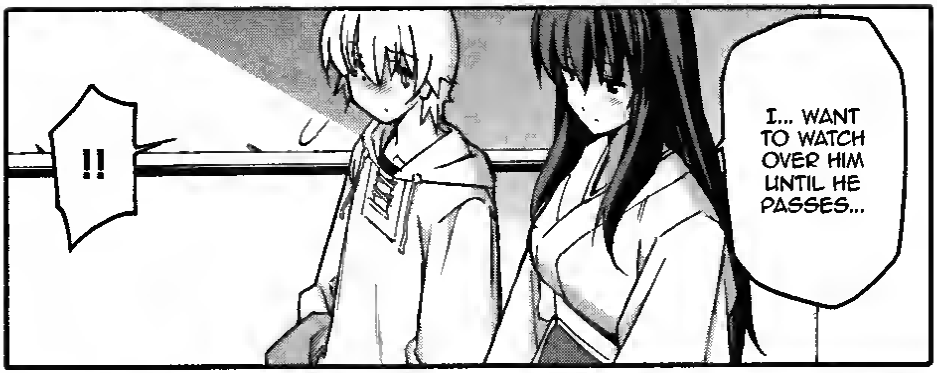


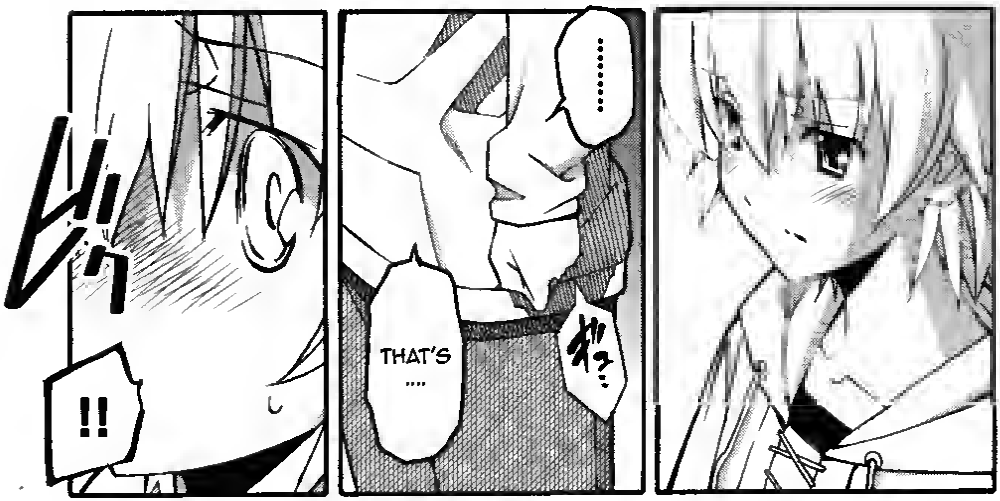


THEY SAID... THERE ISN'T MUCH TIME LEFT.

.....

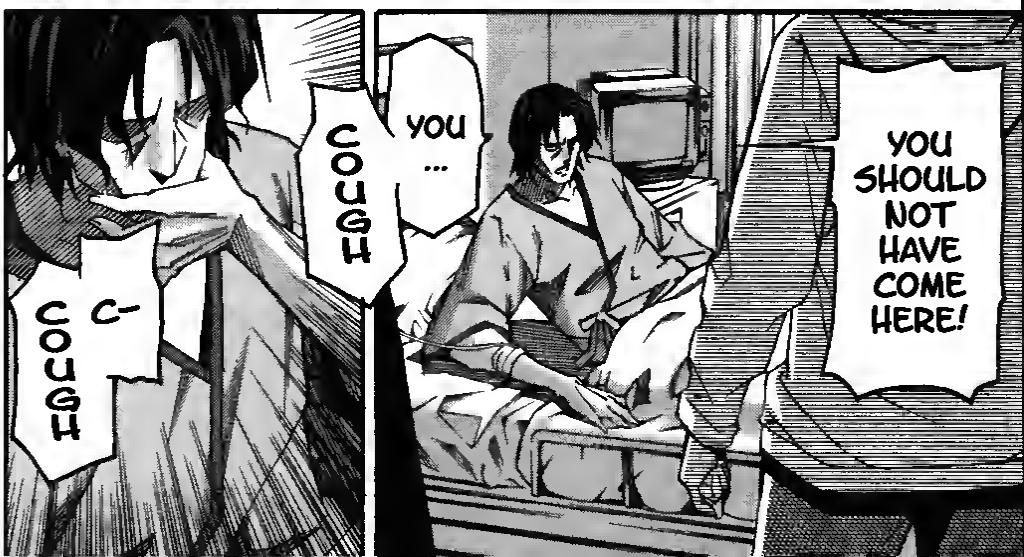
WHAT'S... THE MEANING OF THIS?


!!
I... WANT TO WATCH OVER HIM UNTIL HE PASSES...


!!
THAT'S ....
.....

WHY ARE YOU HERE?

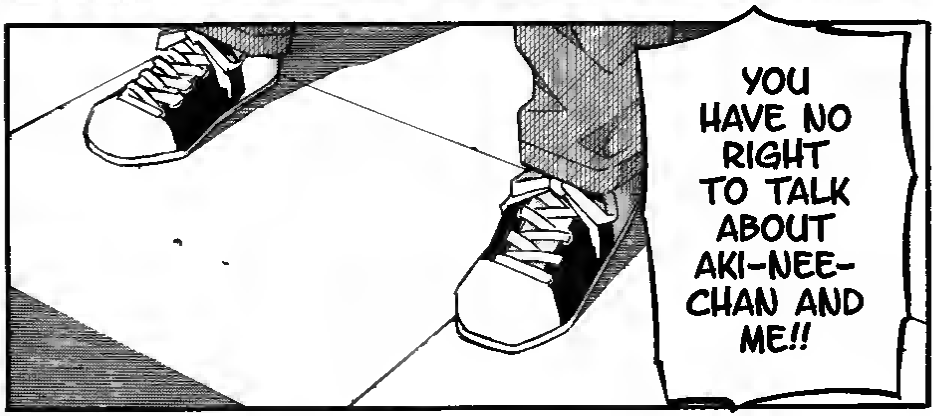
GET OUT!!
I... I'M..


C- COUGH
COUGH
YOU ...
YOU SHOULD NOT HAVE COME HERE!

FATHER !!
YOU TOO ...
WHY ARE YOU HERE !!
COUGH
FATHER, DON'T SPEAK! WE'LL LEAVE RIGHT AWAY!!
YOU TWO DON'T UNDER-STAND ANY-THING...!!
HA
NO-THING ...!!
HA
...WHY!
EVEN NOW ...!!

EVEN NOW...
DON'T PRETEND TO BE OUR FATHER ...!!

I...
I DON'T EVEN KNOW YOU!!


YOU HAVE NO RIGHT TO TALK ABOUT AKI-NEE-CHAN AND ME!!

I DON'T CARE
IF YOU LIVE OR DIE!!

Ip

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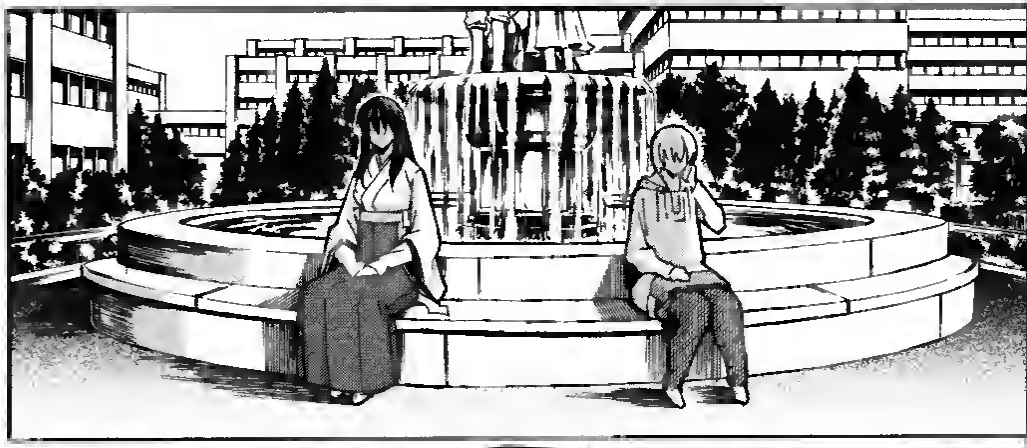
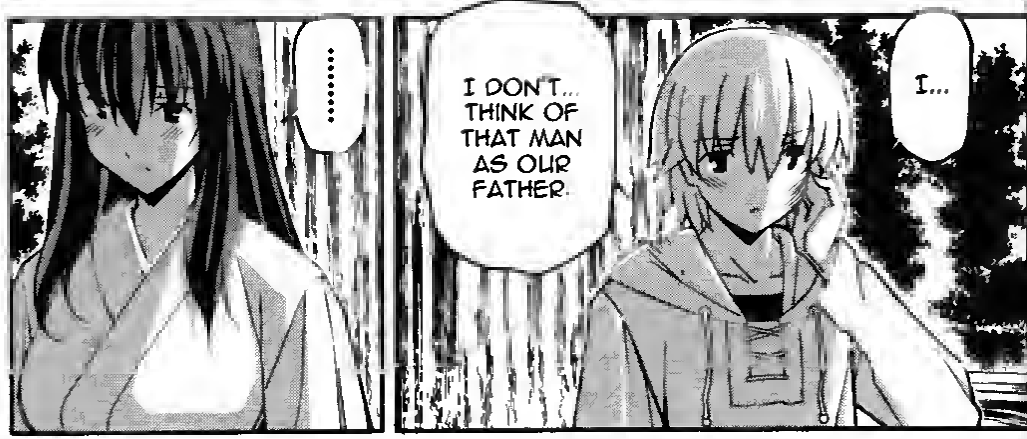
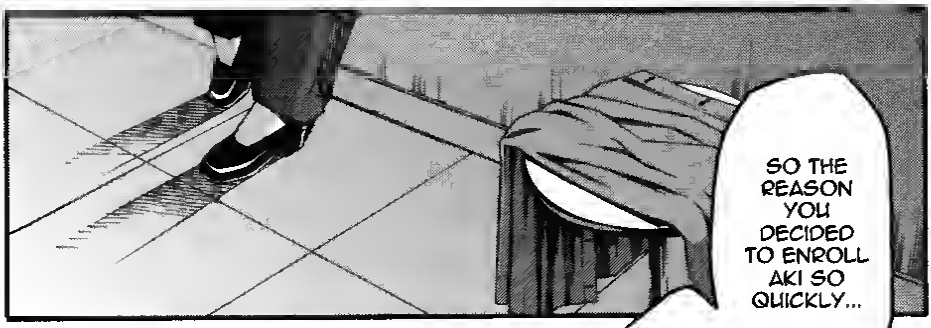
DON'T RAISE YOUR VOICE IN A HOSPITAL.
...FOR CRY-ING OUT LOUD.
MOM...




I...
I DON'T... THINK OF THAT MAN AS OUR FATHER.
.....

IT REALLY IS STRANGE.
THAT YOU'RE HERE FOR THAT PERSON'S SAKE....
...YOU'RE WRONG.
I'M HERE FOR MY OWN PURPOSE.
.....
THERE IS A REASON.
.....
I DON'T UNDERSTAND ....

THERE IS A REA- SON.
THAT FATHER IS BLAMING US.....


SO THE REASON YOU DECIDED TO ENROLL AKI SO QUICKLY...

.....

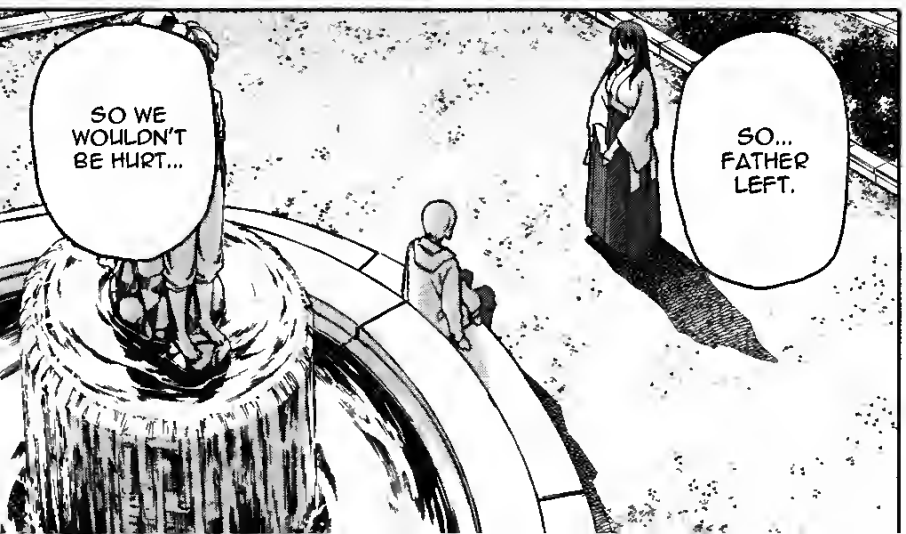
WAS -THAT- ...

DECIDING THINGS ON YOUR OWN, RUNNING OFF.
... TCH.
YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN LIKE THIS.
YOU'RE THE SAME, AREN'T YOU?
BIG SIS.

H-HOLD ON!!
IS THAT ...
YES ...
JUST LIKE US...
OUR MOTHER AND FATHER WERE...

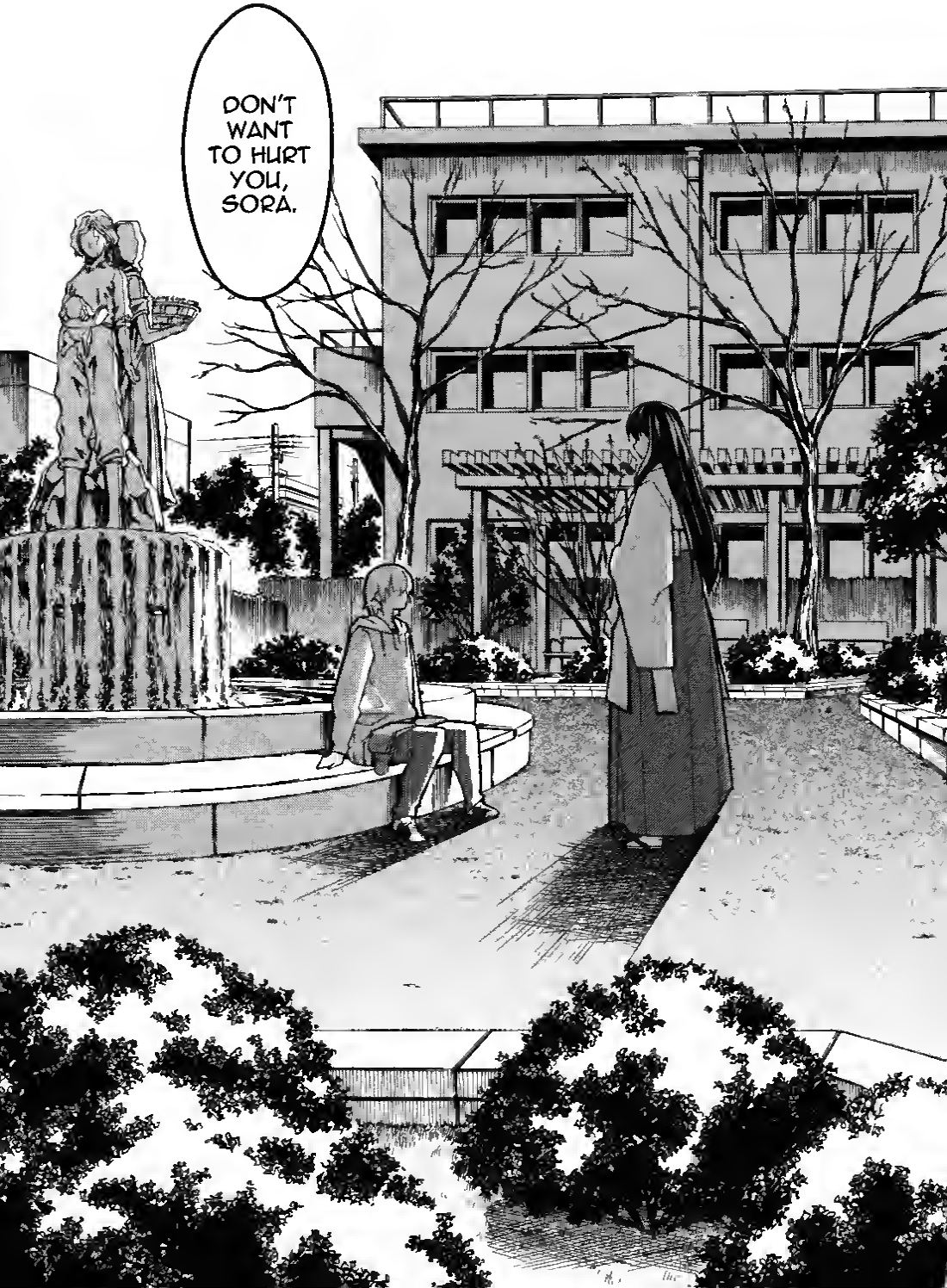
TH-
THAT'S
...

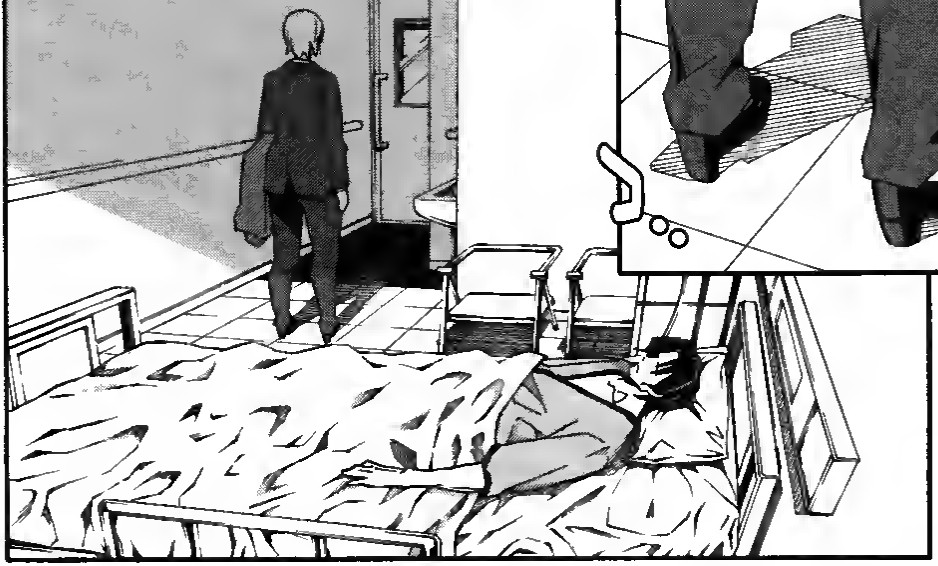
THOSE AROUND THEM WOULD NOT FORGIVE THEM FOR THAT...
BUT JUST THAT WASN'T ENOUGH IN THE END...
THE TWO OF THEM WERE BOUND TOGETHER BY THEIR DESIRE FOR ONE ANOTHER....


SO WE WOULDN'T BE HURT...
SO... FATHER LEFT.

NASTY GOSSIP GOING AROUND... BEING HATED BY EVERY-ONE...
PASSERS-BY WOULD POINT AND TALK BEHIND THEIR BACK...
THEIR LIFE TOGETHER CERTAINLY WASN'T A HAPPY ONE...

I CAN'T BLAME HIM FOR THAT.
AND REALLY ...
I...


DON'T WANT TO HURT YOU, SORA.

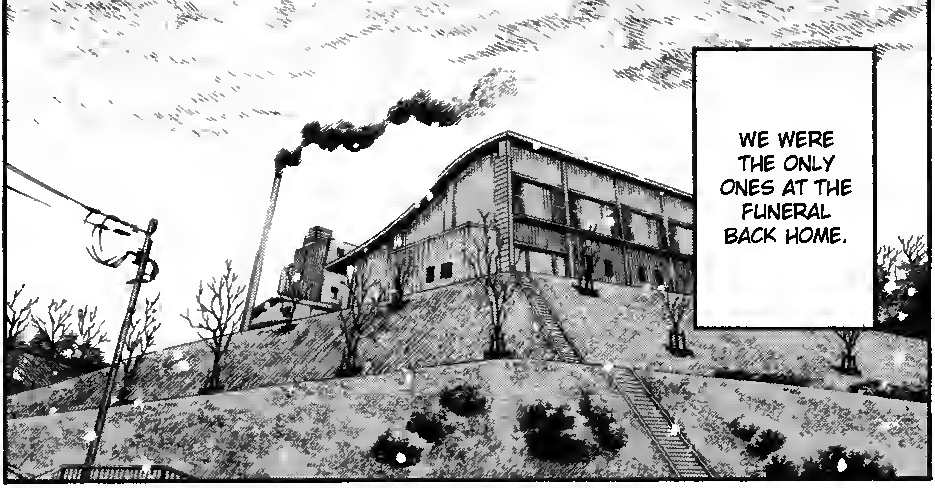


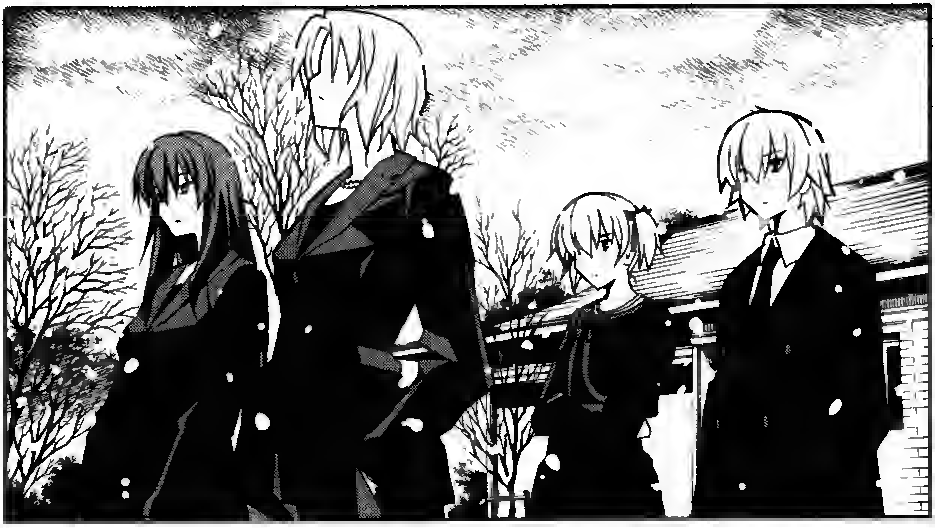
NOT NOTICING WHAT WAS BETWEEN AKI AND SORA WAS MY SIN...
SO...

FROM HERE ON OUT,
I'LL TAKE RESPON-SIBILITY.
.....

SO YOU INTEND TO KEEP IT UP?
PRETEN-DING TO BE FAMILY.
.....

SHORTLY AFTER THAT,
THAT PERSON PASSED AWAY.
I GUESS IT WAS ME WHO WAS PRE-TENDING...
...TO BE FAMILY, HUH?


WE WERE THE ONLY ONES AT THE FUNERAL BACK HOME.

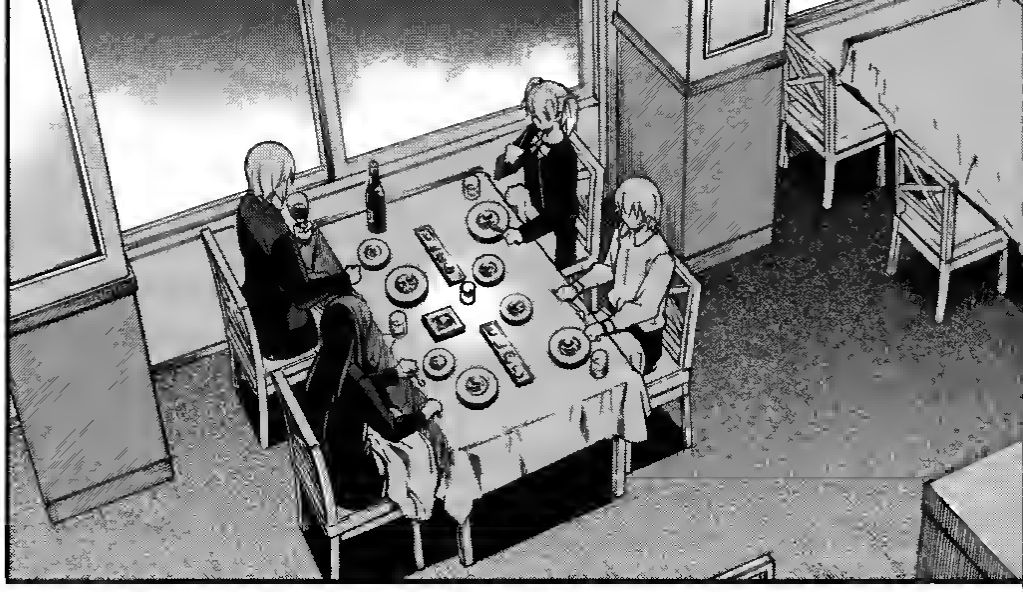


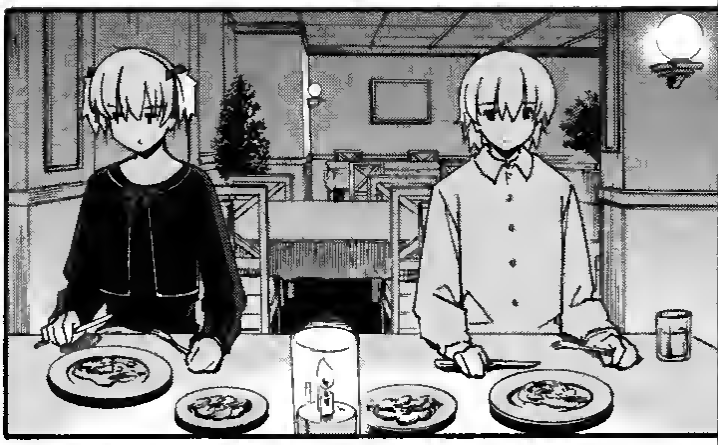
JUST AS HE HAD REQUESTED IN HIS WILL.

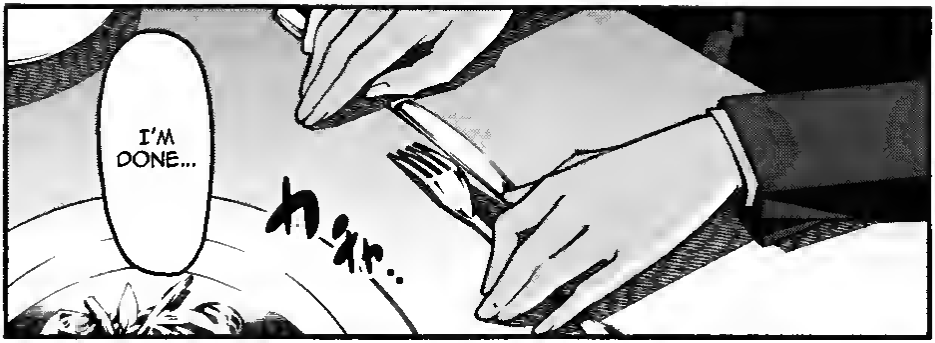
NO MATTER HOW OFTEN I REMEMBER,
EVEN NOW I NEVER VIEWED HIM AS A RELATIVE.
NOT EVEN ONCE.

PEOPLE DESTINED TO BE BOUND TOGETHER BUT ARE FORBIDDEN TO,
IN OTHER WORDS ...
THIS SORT OF RELATIONSHIP.
Those around them would not forgive them for that...

UD A HOTEL

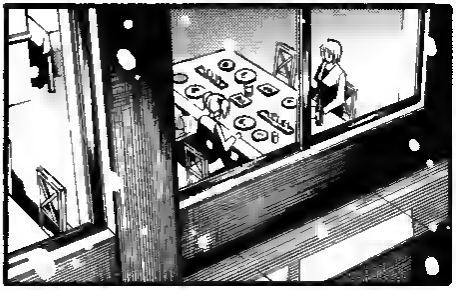


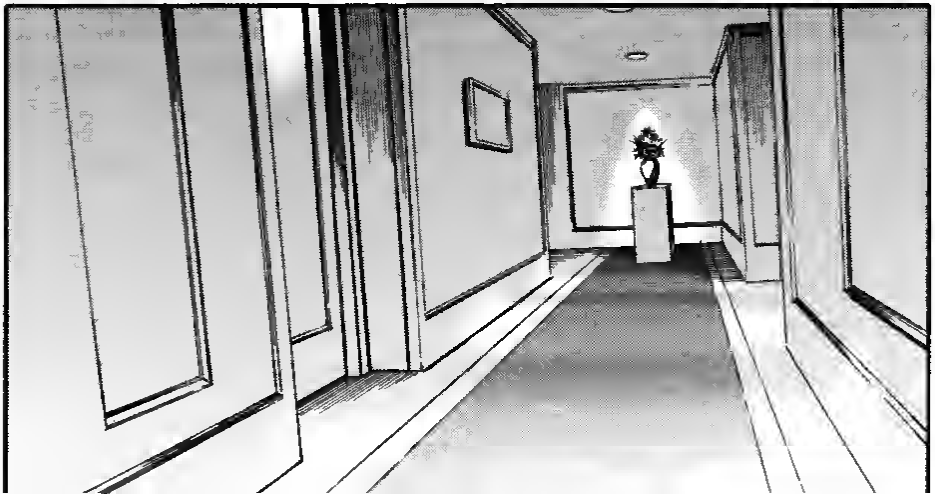


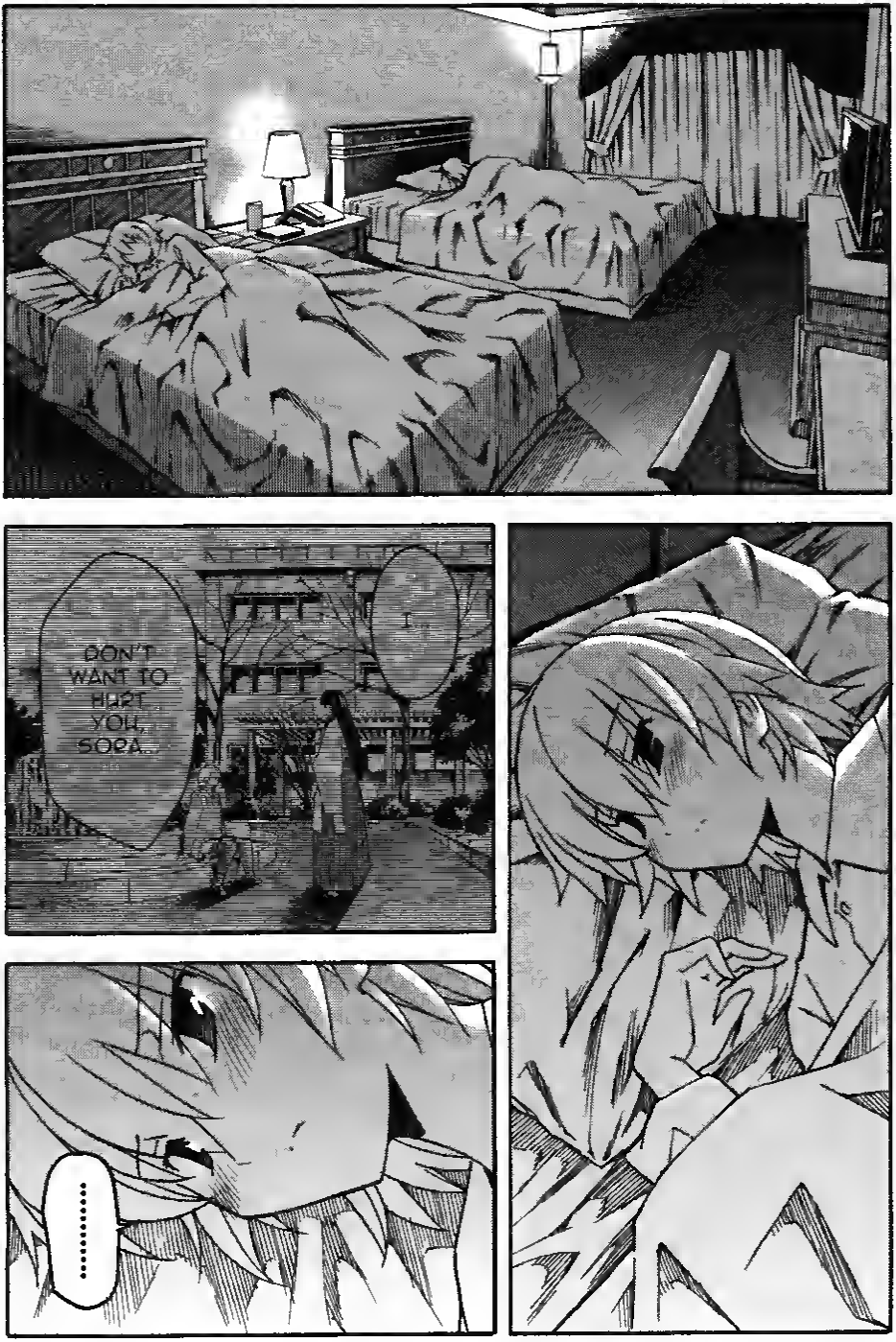

I'M DONE...

...OKAY.

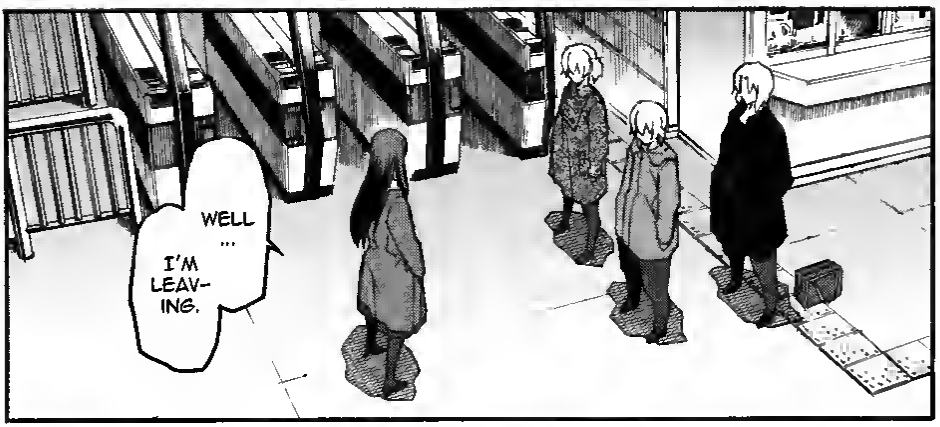
AH ...
I'M... GOING TO BED.





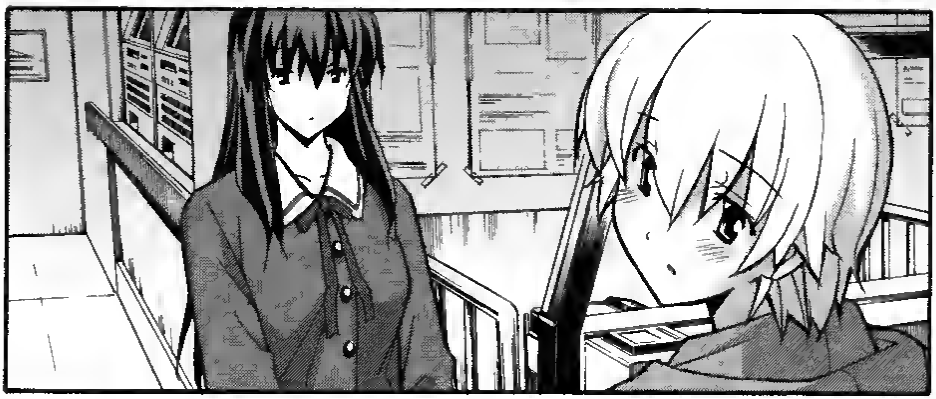

DON'T WANT TO HURT YOU, SORA...
.....

DON'T WANT TO HURT AKI-NEE-CHAN, EITHER...
I...


WELL ...
I'M LEAV-ING.

.....

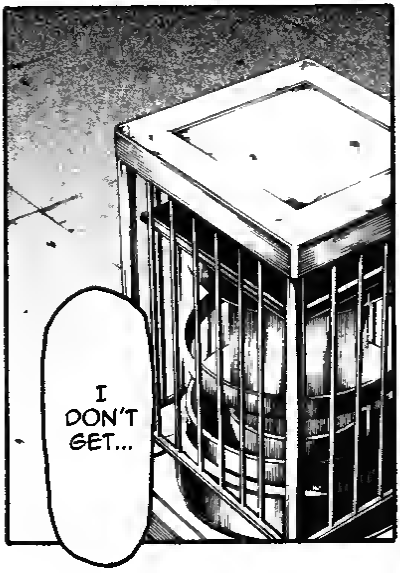
SORA ...
!!
GO SEE HER OFF.



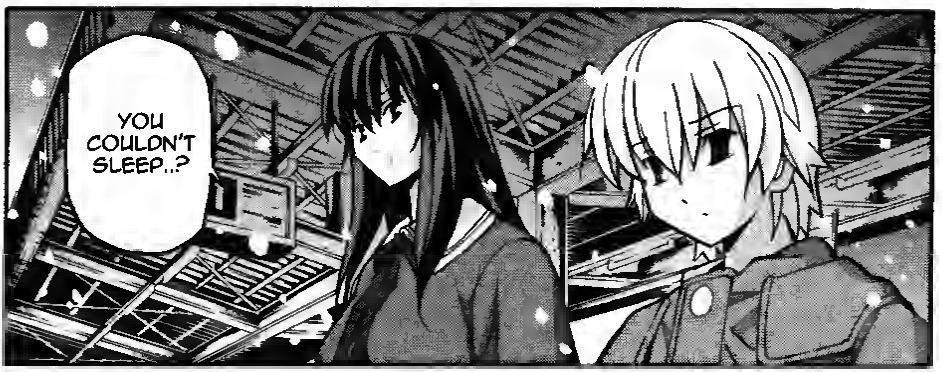
I DON'T GET IT...

AKI-NEE HAS NO REASON TO GO BACK THERE ANY-MORE...

AKI HAS ... DECIDED THAT FOR HERSELF.

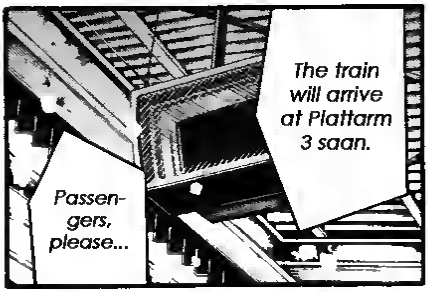

I DON'T GET...

THAT'S WHAT...


YOU COULDN'T SLEEP..?

I...
COULDN'T SLEEP EITHER
.....

YOU KNOW, SORA,
I THOUGHT ...
WE COULD LIVE IN THAT DREAM FOREVER...

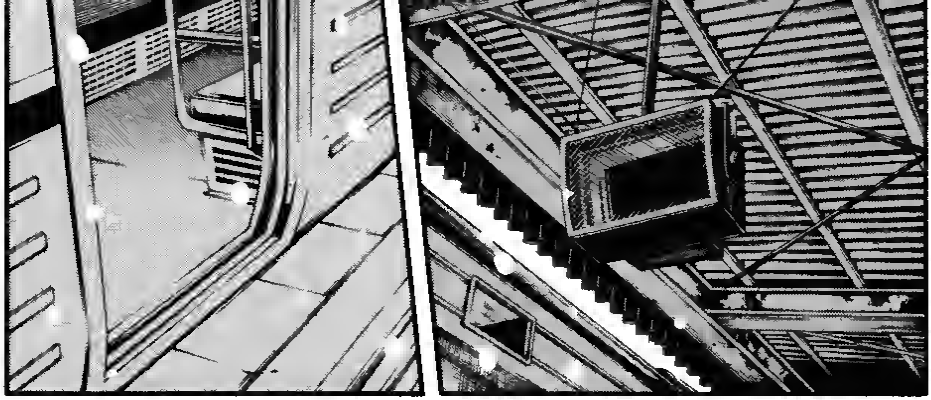

The train will arrive at Plattarm 3 saan.
Passen-gers, please...

.....

I'LL BE TOGETHER WITH SORA FOREVER...
NO MATTER WHAT HAP-PENS, WE WON'T BE SEPARATED...
THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT.

I'M SORRY ...

STOP ...
.....
I DON'T WANT TO... HEAR THOSE WORDS.
NO ...
THAT'S TOO MUCH ...!!



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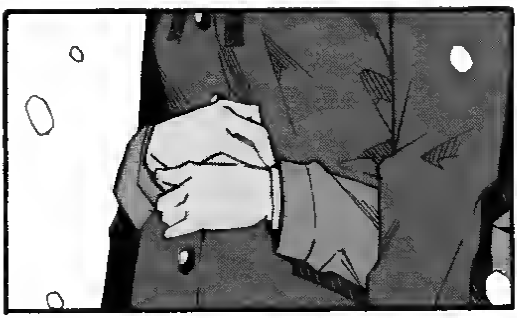


……

I WON'T GO ANY-WHERE.
IF YOU TELL ME NOT TO GO, SORA...

!!

I CAN OVERCOME ANYTHING...
IF YOU WISH IT... I'LL DO ANYTHING.

SO...
ドン
DECIDE.
THE WORDS I COULDN'T FIND...
WERE RIGHT THERE.

IF I WERE TO SAY "DON'T GO",
AKI-NEE-CHAN WOULD SURELY LISTEN TO THOSE WORDS.
DECIDE ...
I NEED TO MAKE A CHOICE.
I ...!!

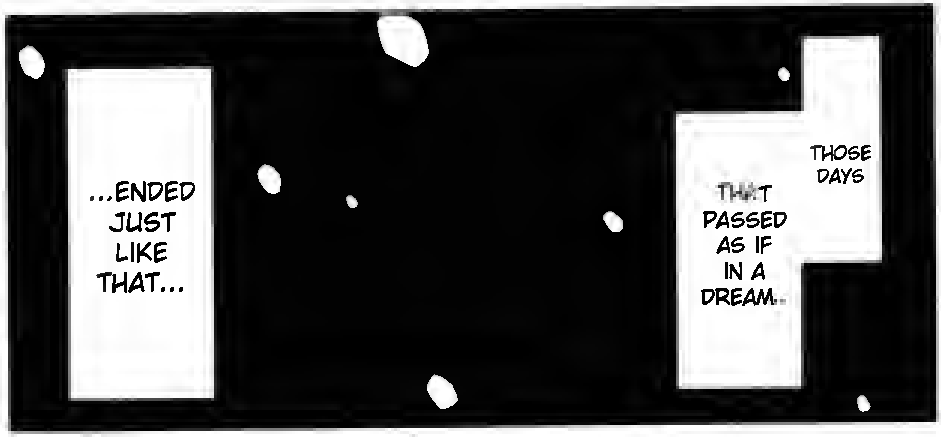
A world where I can live with Aki-nee-chan ——!!
THERE WAS NO NEED TO BE CONFUSED.
A world without with Aki-nee-chan, or...
IT WAS SO...
THERE WAS NO ROOM TO THINK.

I'VE DECIDED FROM THE START.
THE ANSWER ...
FROM THE VERY BEGIN NING ...
SO...

DON'T GO!!

1

.....
DON'T GO....


...ENDED JUST LIKE THAT...
THOSE DAYS THAT PASSED AS IF IN A DREAM..